The Cochin Fisheries Act (Amendment) Bill*

Mr. K. Achyuta Menon *(Diwan Peishkar):* I move that the Cochin Fisheries Act (Amendment) Bill be taken up and finally passed.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government):* I second it.

Motion put and carried

The Cochin Town Councils Bill

Dr. A. R. Menon *(Minister for Rural Development):* I beg to present the Select Committee Report on the Cochin Town Councils Bill and move that the Bill as amended by the Select Committee be taken into consideration.

The Bill was submitted to a Select Committee consisting of Members of this House and only very minor alterations have been effected in the original Bill. I have nothing to say except that no radical changes have been effected by the Committee.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar *(Secretary to Government):* I second it.

Mr. T. V. Subramania Ayyar *(Nemmara):* I rise to oppose the motion for consideration of the Bill. In doing so, I beg leave of the House to state shortly the reasons which have prompted me to oppose this motion. One of the main considerations which will affect the decision of this House with regard to this particular Bill is the necessity for such a legislation and the advisability of introducing such a measure to meet the demand of the public or the demand of the public for the better administration of these areas. A case has to be made out by the Hon'ble Minister in order to show that such a Bill is a matter of importance and that it is absolutely necessary for the betterment of the people inhabiting those areas which are contemplated to be declared as Town Councils. My first point with regard to the Bill in opposing it is that there is no necessity to cast a burden of additional taxation on those people who live in those localities, which will be hereafter declared as Town Councils. An attempt has been made during the discussion of this measure at the introduction stage that it is actuated with a view to give more money to the villages and also to prevent the expenditure of money in towns from the taxes collected from these villages. There would have been some force in the argument, if there has been, or there is, lack of money in the hands of the Government. Thanks to the various circumstances, the finances of Cochin are

* Vide Appendix II

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